

# Currents

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*Megwa Ezhiweback*



*Ziisabaakdoke-Giizis (Sugar Moon)*  
May / June 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 5  
*Ode' mini-Giizis (Strawberry Moon)*



ALSO IN THIS  
PUBLICATION

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HONORS CASINO

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P.26 MEMBERS SUBMISSIONS

*Office of Public  
Affairs  
Contact Information  
1-888-723-8288  
1-231-398-6840*

## New Willows Buffet at LRCCR



Here's a new look and lots of new items at the re-designed Willows Buffet! Over 100 items and a streamlined process promise good food and great variety.  
See the story on page 5.

## '09 Election Results

2009 Election Results! The Election concluded Friday evening April 24th when the polls closed at 6 p.m. 1076 ballots were cast out of 3382 eligible Tribal members. 3 ballots were spoiled and 20 were unsigned and could not be counted. The Election Board then proceeded with the count, closely watched by candidates and tribal members alike. The results are tentative at this time pending any filing of appeals. Winners are indicated in Bold type and have an asterisk in their names are highlighted:

### Council At Large results:

Michael Ceplina 350  
**Virgil Johnson\* 393**  
Elaine Porter 234

### Council 9 County results:

Kimberly Alexander 150  
Bill Anderson 121  
Harold Battice II 156  
Austen Brauker 92  
**Candace Chapman\* 188**  
Pamela Medahko 119  
**Steve Parsons\* 247**  
**Janine Sam\* 185**  
Melissa Zelenak 98

### Council Outlying results:

**Norbert Kelsey\* 204**  
Sandy Lempke-Mezeske 189  
Rick Sprague Big Thunder 128

### Office of Tribal Court

**Chief Judge results** after 3rd recount a tie was declared! By Election regulations, after the 5 business day challenge period, the two candidates will draw for the winner in the presence of the Election Board:

**Daniel Bailey \* 345**  
John Gregory Kelsey 314  
**Jonnie Jay Sam\* 345**

### Office of Tribal Appellate Court Judge (Attorney) results:

**Melissa L. Pope\* 795**

### Office of Tribal Appellate Court Judge (Elder) results:

Marcella Leusby 253  
Joseph J. LaPorte 356  
**Martha Kase\* 378**  
Office of Election Board  
Duane Battice 244  
Terri L. Burmeister 211  
Berni L. Carlson 345  
Brenda Hyma-Cogswell 197  
**Alesia Condon\* 402**  
**Nancy I. Kelsey\* 365**  
Bernadene Crampton MPA 350  
**Diane A. Lonn\* 474**

## Deputization with DNR

Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm signed a historic document for Indian Country when she approved the cross-deputization of Tribal Natural Resources CORA officers in March. See the article on page 2

## Members Art makes Dough!



Debra Davis came up with a new visually pleasing and tasty way to do business. See the story on page 27.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street  
Manistee, Michigan 49660

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Manistee, MI



Aanii,  
As I write this article, we are working on gathering information for the Spring Membership Meeting which may or may not have taken place by the time you get this.

At this meeting, we set aside one half hour to be broadcast live on the internet as sort of a test run for "televising" future meetings of the Tribe. We are very close to being able to do live broadcasts of membership meetings on a regular basis if this works.

By the time you receive this, the 2009 Election may have been decided. It is my hopes to take

some time to sit with the new Council and discuss where we are, where we want to be and what it will take to get there. I believe that we need an orientation process for newly elected officials to bring them up to speed on a variety of issues and projects.

I am excited about the fact that we have begun the process of having an Organizational Assessment and a Strategic Plan done for the Tribal Government. This is something I know other Ogemas and Councils have worked on. The key to having this work, is to take action and utilize the information collected once the studies have been completed and not allow the results to sit on a shelf. We should have a clearer focus of short term and long term goals and we should have a more efficient run government while

being able to use our dollars wisely.

I recently had the opportunity to give testimony in Washington DC regarding Native American health care being severely underfunded in Michigan and surrounding states. Director of Health, Jessica Burger presented me with the ability to get involved; more about this subject can be found in the following pages. I am also working with several other Michigan Tribes on some joint issues that we will be taking to Washington in the near future. Hopefully, I will have a report on that in the next issue of the Currents.

The Muskegon Project continues to move ahead and bids are being taken on the horse barns and other equipment. We have also taken bids for the demolition of the main building and leveling of the property. Please watch the Rapid River News for updates.

Have a nice spring and until next month...



## Department of Natural Resources

### *Tribal NR Officers are Cross Deputized!*

#### Supervising Officer thoughts...

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Public Safety Lieutenant Dave DeForest told the Currents that, "This agreement is truly a monumental event! It will give our Conservation Officers the authority to ascertain if the sportsman is Tribal or non Tribal. We now have the authority to protect the sovereign rights as well as the resource."

Lt. DeForest is the supervisor of the four tribal Conservation Enforcement Officers appointed to this particular duty.



#### Ogema's thoughts on Cross-Deputization

I believe that this agreement is crucial in affirming our sovereign rights; it protects all Natural Resources officers, both tribal and non-tribal and also helps to protect our natural resources, which is the main focus of each of this effort. I believe that this agreement will show the cooperative abilities of the Tribe to work with other governments' law enforcement offices and lead to other expanded cross deputizing agreements in the future.

In addition, I would like to thank those who spent literally years working on this agreement from both within and outside of our tribe. Their ceaseless work only further strengthens our nation. K'chi Miigwech!

Larry Romanelli, Ogema



The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the Michigan State Police have entered into a very unique agreement, one which extends the Tribes authority to uphold the 2007 Inland Consent Decree, specifically, the enforcement of conservation regulations.

The Michigan State Police appointment for LRBOI Tribal Conservation Enforcement Officers grants them the ability to stop anyone in the field to determine whether they are a Tribal or State, hunter or fisher.

The limited appointments will not confer general state peace officer responsibilities, but will authorize Tribal officers to enforce a provision in Tribal and State law that requires hunters and fishers to display a hunting or fishing license and picture identification upon the request of any law enforcement officer.

Also, provisions in the 2007 Consent Decree cross-deputized all Michigan DNR officers to enforce Tribal regulations throughout the 1836 Ceded Territory. In other words, when a Michigan DNR Officer writes a ticket to a Tribal Member, that officer is not doing so as a State employee, they are writing a Tribal Ticket, based on Tribal Law which will be heard and adjudicated in Tribal Court. Violations of state law by non-Tribal members will be prosecuted in state court.

This is an important agreement in promoting the Tribe's sovereignty and assisting the tribe in the management of Tribal Treaty Hunting and Fishing Rights. This agreement also represents a major step forward in inter-agency cooperation for the betterment of all citizens and protection of the environment that we all share.





## Commission, Committee and Board Stipend Payments Collected for Fiscal Year 2009 in Accordance with Resolution #03-0813-248

1. Commissions are created to regulate and manage within a subject matter or activity.  
a. **Membership.** A commission has commissioners who shall be appointed by the Ogema and approved by the Tribal Council.  
b. **Authority.** A commission shall be granted sufficient legislative authority to allow the commission to create regulations to govern in the subject matter jurisdiction.  
Commissions are created by adoption of an Ordinance which sets forth the legislative requirements, direction, limitations, restrictions or other directions regarding a subject matter. Upon adoption of an Ordinance, the commissioners shall be identified and directed to develop and present by-laws.

The Tribal Council shall establish Tribal Committees, as needed, in areas of governance and development. The Committees shall be composed of Tribal members and other interested persons who shall meet and discuss specific issues in order to provide information to the Tribal Council so that the Council can make better informed decisions that affect the Tribal community. In furtherance of this purpose, this Policy will provide rules for the organization, functions, responsibilities, and requirements of Tribal Committees.

### 2. Commission/Committee Schedules: Commissions:

**Commerce Commission**  
None submitted - Legal Department Conference Room

**Binojeeuk Commission**  
1:00 p.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesdays – Gaming Commission Conference Room

**Health Commission**  
None submitted– Health Clinic

**Natural Resource Commission**  
5:30 p.m., 1st Wednesday – Justice Center

**Committees:**  
**Elders**  
12:00 noon, 1st Saturday of each month - Community Center

Special or Emergency Meetings do not appear but may be scheduled.

3. Commission members receive \$35.00/meeting per Resolution # 09-0107-04.  
Committee members receive \$35.00/meeting per Resolution # 09-0304-58.

### Commission/Committee Stipends Paid January 1 to March 31, 2009

#### Elders Committee

Sharon Reed	\$ 70
Cornelius Deverney	\$ 105
Fran Pitts	\$ 105
Margery Lutz	\$ 70
Ron Pete	\$ 105

#### Commerce Commission

Denis Mickle	\$ 35
Virgil Johnson	\$ 35
Connie Waitner	\$ 70

#### Enrollment Commission

Katie Glocheski	\$ 105
Diana O'Neal	\$ 105
Margery Lutz	\$ 105
Charmaine Stone	\$ 105
Aldeanna Kelsey	\$ 105
Donna Schultz	\$ 70
Al Patricio	\$ 105

#### Binojeeuk Commission

Joan Spalding	\$ 175
Virgil Johnson	\$ 175

#### Gaming Commission

Bonnie Kenny	\$ 515
Joan Spalding	\$ 515
Joe Kelsey	\$ 515
Terri Nauta	\$ 250

#### Health Commission

Marty Wabindato	\$ 105
Pamela Johnson	\$ 105
Denise Lewis	\$ 0
Al Patricio	\$ 105
Rosemary Edmondson	\$ 0

**Enrollment Commission**  
5:30 p.m., 2nd Monday - Community Center

**Gaming Commission**  
5:30 p.m., Tuesdays – Gaming Commission Conference Room

**Housing Commission**  
11:00 a.m., 1st Thursday – Housing Office



#### Housing Commission

John Ross	\$ 35
Natural Resource Commission	
Julia Chapman	\$ 70
John Koon	\$ 105
Aldeanna Kelsey	\$ 105
Alyce Giltz	\$ 70
Ron Wittenberg	\$ 105
Virgil Johnson	\$ 105
Judy Nedeau	\$ 105
Mike Ceplina	\$ 105
Brenda Hyma-Cogswell	\$ 35

Current vacancies are available on Commissions:

Binojeeuk Commission – 3 vacant seats  
Commerce Commission – 2 vacant seats  
Gaming Commission – 1 vacant seat  
Health Commission – 1 vacant seat  
Anyone interested in serving on one of the above commissions, please submit a letter of interest to the Tribal Ogema with a copy to the Tribal Council.



The Little River Casino Resort was recognized at a banquet the evening of the 18th of April by the soldiers of Bravo Troop (Manistee National Guard). When they were deployed to Iraq last year, the casino had assisted with buses and some equipment for the sendoff. At the banquet, General Manager Michael Garrow and Marketing Director Eileen Duffin were presented with some gifts by Bravo Troop.

Also honored at the dinner were Manistee Mayor Cyndy Fuller, Manistee Police Chief Dave Bachman, Lt. Brian Postma (Michigan State Police) representing the Boy Scouts and numerous other local dignitaries.

The honorees were gifted with a cased flag flown over Bravo Troops Headquarters in Iraq and some also received a special commemorative Hackberry cane. These canes have special significance to Manistee as a Hackberry Tree was planted following WWII for each of the Manistee residents lost in the world war. Several of the trees had to be removed as a section of river bank was being worked upon. The removed trees were all about 12" in diameter when taken down. The wood from the trees was dried and sawn into planks which are used by a local artist (and retired MAPS educator) to create these special walking sticks.



## Government Closes for the following Holidays

- \*New Years Day
- \*Treaty Recognition Day
- \*Memorial Day
- \*Independence Day
- \*Labor Day
- \*Reaffirmation Day (September 21<sup>st</sup>)
- \*Veteran's Day
- \*Thanksgiving Day
- \*Friday after Thanksgiving Day
- \*Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
- \*Christmas Day



Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety.

Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities.

It's always a good idea to call first if you are not sure.  
Just use the toll-free number of 888.723.8288.

## LRBOI joins in fund raising tournaments

A basketball tournament was held at Manistee High School on April 4th. LRBOI had (2) Tribal Public Safety Officers on the combined team. Robert Medacco, David Rodriquez. Manistee City and Tribal were teamed up together.

Then on Saturday March 11th, Officers of LRBOI-DPS, Tribal Prosecutor's Office, and Tribal Court Employees and family members participated in a Fund Raiser Volleyball Tournament for Choices of Manistee. This Tournament also involved Manistee Area Law Enforcement and Corrections Employees. After a hard fought battle LRBOI placed second in the tournament losing to the Oaks Correctional Facility. Thanks to Janelle Lyrenmann for organizing the team and Jim & Kathy Grabowski for sponsoring the tournament and all who came out and supported the team.



Each year employees of the tribe participate in a number of fund-raising events with the community. These are just two of them.





The Little River Casino Resort Board of Directors met on April 16th, prior to the Spring Membership Meeting in the

Makwa Endaat. The well-attended meeting saw numerous discussions concerning job security and opportunity for tribal members at the property. There was also some discussion on what a few Tribal Members saw as areas of concern on how the casino is being managed. Cornelius DeVerney, Sally Bell and other members talked extensively concerning job postings and what they viewed as less than fair treatment of casino employees. The board also reported that there are positive signs at the casino which, "indicate that we are doing fine and moving forward," according to Board Member Ron Spoerl.

Another area discussed at length was the destructive rumor mill at the casino. Subjects for this 'mill' included more potential layoffs. General Manager Michael Garrow repeatedly told the board and attending members that barring a 'depression', there were not going to be any more layoffs. More details also came out regarding the first layoffs and how management actually had delayed them beyond the point where other casinos would have moved. Plus, casino management was cognizant of the upcoming change with the introduction of *Ticket In/Ticket Out* (TITO) and had addressed reassignment of

employees (called 'Transfer') so that more jobs would not be lost. The board has gone to Tribal Council asking for them to pay attention

to a modification of the hiring practice that would allow for reassignment of employees instead of having to go through the whole re-posting process. This would give management a better tool to retain employees and improve overall functioning of the facility.



One tribal member commented that, "Tribal members who do work at the casino need to work harder than anyone else...they represent the tribe/casino and should set a positive example for everyone working for the tribe. Some, not all tribal

members try to take advantage of the casino, by being late or have an attitude towards other co-workers and feel this ok....they need to show up on time for work and go above and beyond their call of duty. And be thankful they have a job."

Garrow also addressed another aspect of the "rumor mill" and said that the casino has set up a 'rumor mill' hotline to allow for quick



response to rumors. This has helped dispel to some of the rumors that damage morale.

On the subject of job postings, the tribal Commerce Director Robert Memberto and Public Affairs Director Glenn Zaring outlined how openings are posted using numerous methods including Casino Jobs hotlines (website), Michigan state programs, bulletin boards and e-mail blasts to members. Memberto also pointed



out how he just recently completed a mailing to all tribal members concerning the tribal job assistance programs and the new intern program designed to introduce tribal members in college to some of the opportunities available within the tribe. Board members and employees all

said that they would look into other ways to get the word out as well.

DeVerney questioned why the posting only appear for one week and if this was long enough for members to find out about them. This posting time is



## New 'Line' at the Willows



There was a festive atmosphere early on April 1, 2009 at the Little River Casino Resort with a Ribbon Cutting for a major change at the popular Willows

Restaurant. The event was the unveiling of the new **Willows Buffet!**

General Manager Michael Garrow, Ogema Larry Romanelli, LRCR Marketing Director Eileen Duffin and Lead Executive Sous Chef Stephanie Fitch cut the ribbon at the entrance to the newly re-designed restaurant. Also attending the event were Marilyn Barker, Publisher of the News Advocate newspaper and representing the Pioneer Group with papers across Midwestern Michigan, David Barber, Editor of the News Advocate and Ben Failor from Lake Michigan Broadcasting (radio stations covering Midwestern Michigan).

Ron Pete, the Food and Beverage Manager for LRCR, gave the visitors a tour of the new line facility and talked about the reasons for the change

from a menu-driven restaurant to one that is all-buffet, all the time. He commented that visitors to Little River always like to have something new to experience and that this approach was in keeping with trends at other gaming resorts. It also allows for an expansion of the menu and for a way for the staff to ensure that fresher food is always ready for the customers.

One highlight was the new Omelet Bar where visitors can have a fresh, made-to-order omelet cooked by a chef on a new type of stovetop that is state-of-the-art in the restaurant industry.

Chef Stephanie also shared with the visitors her thoughts on providing a wide variety of items that will appeal to many different tastes. She said that the buffet will be featuring over 100 items and will have specialty stations such as a pizza bar, baked potato bar, taco bar, Italian stations, Bread



station, Soup & Salad bar, Ice Cream Sundae station, our famous Chocolate Fountain and our equally famous Carving station for some of that wonderful ham and beef that everyone enjoys!

The Willows Buffet will have a **Breakfast Buffet** daily from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m.; a **Lunch Buffet** daily from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.; a **Dinner Buffet** (Sunday through Thursday) from 4 p.m. until 10 p.m. and our wonderful **Prime Rib & Seafood Grand Buffet** on Fridays and Saturday from 4 p.m. until 11 p.m.





A group of seniors from McAuley Place, A Mercy Living Center (a nursing home) in Muskegon located on Sherman Boulevard visited Little River Casino in mid-April. There were approximately 20 people including residents and staff in attendance in the group. At the time for their photo they were supposed to meet for lunch at noonish but several of the residents were "winning" and refused to leave their machines for lunch! Ogema Larry Romanelli, a Muskegon resident greeted the visitors and they were given a small gift bag. They commented that they were anxious for the Muskegon Casino to open up to save drive time. They commented on how nice our casino is and how clean it always is when they visit.



## Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Traditional Arts Expo



**Pines Convenience Center  
15841 US 41 North  
Baraga**

**May 2-3, 2009**

**June 6-7, 2009**

**11:00 am-6:00 pm**



**Featuring Traditional Arts & Performances by**

**Local Native American Artists**



Sponsored by:  
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community  
Tribal Council  
Cultural Committee  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
Anishinaabe Anokii



Supported by funding from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA)

**Vendors**

**For More Information or to Register Contact:  
Cultural Center: 906-353-7020  
THPO: 906-353-6272**



**Grand River Band of  
Ottawa Indians  
Homecoming on the Three  
Fires  
Traditional PoWow**

30th Annual event with free  
parking and admission  
June 13th and June 14th, 2009  
Riverside Park, Grand  
Rapids, MI  
Grand Entries:  
Saturday the 13th, 1 and 6 p.m.  
Sunday the 14th, 12 noon  
Contact: Joe Leo at  
616-456-8759 or e-mail at gr-  
boi3fpw@yahoo.com  
Alcohol free  
No pets on Pow Wow grounds





This program has been going on around the country for some time now and has been active in the Manistee area since 2004. Manistee County is the 10<sup>th</sup> county in the state of Michigan to have an active 'Bigs' program and it is going strong with 150 youngsters going through since its inception.

Rachel Krolczyk is the Manistee County coordinator for the group, and she was invited by Julie Wolfe (Be Da Bin) and Austen Brauker (Peacemakers) to hold two informational meetings to talk about the program.

When you were growing up, did you have an adult that you looked up to as a role model or friend? Too many times, our young ones don't have the opportunity to have someone like this in their lives. That's why Big Brothers Big Sisters came into being.

In 2006, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians participated and had several active 'Bigs' as the adults are called, involved. If there is sufficient interest for 2009, they are going to try once again to support the group.



If you are interested and would like to get some more information on the process, call Rachel at 231-398-3302 or contact her online at [Manistee.cm@bigsupnorth.com](mailto:Manistee.cm@bigsupnorth.com). If you don't live in Manistee, go to <http://hosted.bbbsa.org/agencyfinder/> and you can do a search for a local agency in your area.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a wonderful organization that provides a healthy environment for youth and adults to interact in a way that is good for both of them. If you want to help the tribe become involved, please let Julie Wolfe, Youth Prevention Counselor know. You may reach her at 231-398-6632. We will need 10 volunteers to make this a tribal activity.

## Nongonhsak group visits the Ogema



Ogema Romanelli had some special visitors in late April when two of our staff members brought a young group of students to the Executive offices in the bank building. The youngsters are part of the Nongonhsak group, a cultural education group teaching students about a number of good things.

Terri Raczowski and Kenny Pheasant started this program 3 years ago. It is mixture of prevention, healthy living, culture and language. The kids love it. They work with kids from K to 3rd grade with this program. It is an afterschool program. The name of the group is "Nangonhsak" which means "Little Stars". Kenny said, "I did not know what to name the group right

away, then when I was outside I noticed that there were a lot stars visible and I remember hearing someone say one time "Oh look the stars are out tonight" and that's when the name came to me. We don't always see the stars or we don't always notice them but they are always there. So these children are our little stars and they will carry this language and culture for us." That is not the whole story, Kenny and Terri will work with them again at Kennedy school and then at the Manistee Middle School. The Nongonhsak group demonstrated what they had learned to the Ogema and used our language. It was a good field trip.

### 18th Annual Odawa Homecoming Jiingtamok (pow wow)

**August 15 & 16, 2009**  
**LTBB Pow Wow Grounds**  
**Harbor Springs, MI**

**Grand Entry Times**  
**Saturday, August 15 - 1 & 7 p.m.**  
**Sunday, August 16 - 12 p.m.**

**Registration:**  
**Friday, August 14, 5 - 8 p.m.**  
**Saturday, August 15, 10 a.m. - noon**  
**Registration fee \$5 per dancer**  
**TRIBAL IDs MAY BE REQUESTED.**  
**Tiny tots need not register.**

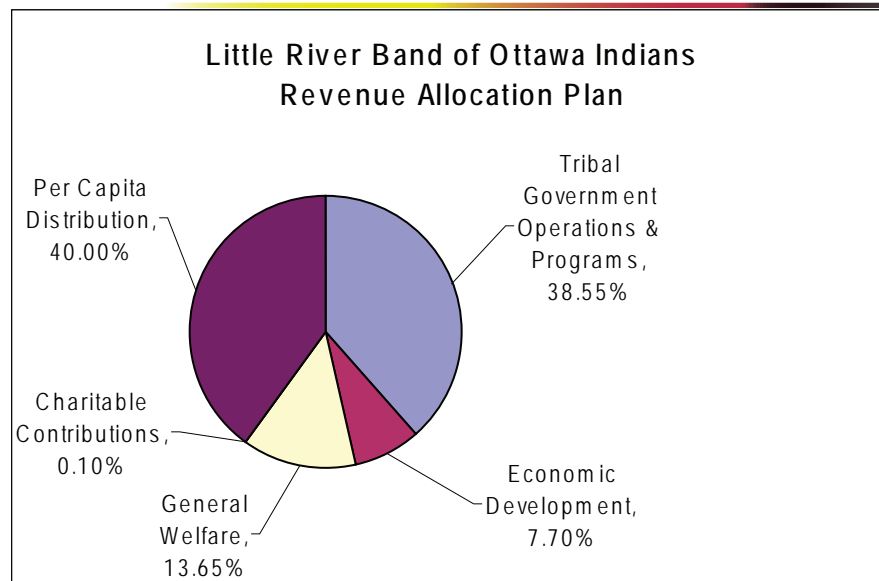
For more information:  
Winnay Wenigwase 231-242-1455  
Annette VanDeCar 231-242-1427  
Vendor Information:  
Marcy Keyes 231-858-4172 Phone  
231-242-1666 Fax

Sponsored by:  
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
7500 Odawa Circle  
Harbor Springs, MI 49740  
Absolutely no politics, drugs, alcohol or pets allowed at this event. Not responsible for loss of property or accidents.



## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Revenue Allocation Plan & Per Capita Question and Answers

The chart below illustrates the allocation percentages designated for each category per the Revenue Allocation Plan.



**Per the LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS REVENUE ALLOCATION PLAN – Approved by Tribal Council Resolution 08-0123-20**

### **Section 2. Purpose**

2.02. The RAP shall allocate revenues generated by the Tribe's gaming enterprises towards the following purposes; the funding of tribal government operations and programs, providing for the general welfare of the Tribe and its members, the promotion of the Tribe's economic development, donations to charitable organizations and per-capita distributions to tribal members.

**This document will be reviewed and updated as necessary. It is recommended that you review the tribe's website often for additions to the Q & A information.**

### **Question and Answer – Per Capita Payments**

**Brought to you by:**

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Members Assistance Department  
375 River Street  
Manistee, MI 49660**

#### **1. Q. Who is the contact for questions about the Per Capita payments?**

**A.** The Members Assistance Department will assist you with questions or direct you to the department or agency who can better answer your questions. Phone: 231-723-8288 or Toll Free 888-723-8288.

#### **2. Q. How will the tribe know where to mail the payment?**

**A.** The checks and check register for direct deposit checks are mailed to the last known address on file with the Enrollment Department. If you plan to move or have moved, contact the Enrollment Department for a Change of Address Form.

#### **3. Q. What if I have a different address than what is on file with Enrollment?**

**A.** If you have a different address than what is on file with Enrollment you must contact Enrollment for an Address Correction Form. All address changes are reported to the Members Assistance Department and Accounting Department for check processing purposes. If you have not updated your information, this could result in a delay in receiving a payment. Returned UNDELIVERABLE mail is reported to the Enrollment Department. In the event a total of three (3) mailings of any kind are returned to the tribe, any further mailings stop until the



member contacts the tribe to update their information.

#### 4. Q. What if I do not receive the check in the mail or it is lost?

A. Contact the Members Assistance Department to assist you.

#### 5. Q. Are Per Capita Payments Taxable?

A. Yes, The tribe is obligated to notify you that Per Capita payments are subject to federal taxation. Per Capita is taxable income and the taxes assessed depend on your income bracket and location. The Tribe will automatically deduct applicable taxes from the per capita payments if they meet the Internal Revenue Services threshold that would require the withholding. The payments may also be subject to state tax if you do not live in the tax agreement area. All Per Capita payments will be reported on the appropriate tax form and mailed to you by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. We encourage you to contact a tax preparer for further tax questions.

#### 6. Q. Who is eligible to receive Per Capita Payments?

A. Per the *Revenue Allocation Plan Section 8.03 Per Capita Distribution Eligibility subsection (ii)* be enrolled in the Tribe no later than the last day of two fiscal quarters previous. For example, to be eligible to receive per capita distribution in the fiscal quarter four (4) of the fiscal year, a qualified tribal member would need to have been enrolled with the tribe by no later than the last day of fiscal quarter two (2) of that fiscal year.

Fiscal Quarters
(1) January thru March
(2) April thru June
(3) July thru September
(4) October thru December

#### 7. Q. What are the age groups for Per Capita Payments?

A. Elders Age 55 and older and Adults Age 18 to 54. – Per the *Revenue Allocation Plan Section 8.03 Per Capita Distribution Eligibility subsection (iii)* - A tribal member's age, for purposes of per capita made pursuant to the Revenue Allocation Plan, shall be determined by the tribal member's age on the last day of two fiscal quarters previous. For example, (USING THE CHART ABOVE) to be considered 18 or elder age 55 in fiscal quarter four (4) of the fiscal year, a tribal member would need to have turned 18 or 55 no later than the last day of the fiscal quarter two (2) of that fiscal year.

#### 8. Q. Are minor Tribal Members eligible to receive Per Capita Payments?

A. No- Tribal members under the age of 18 shall not be eligible to receive per capita distributions.

#### 9. Q. What will the tribe do with Per Capita payments that are not claimed?

A. See *Revenue Allocation Plan Section 8 (b) Use of Net Gaming Revenues: Individual Per Capita Distributions*- Any net gaming revenues allocated for the purpose of funding per capita distributions that have not been expended on the last date of the fiscal year shall be reallocated to tribal investments.

#### 10. Q. How are Per Capita payments disbursed by age group? Amounts illustrated below are an EXAMPLE and should not be misinterpreted as the amount that will be disbursed. Amounts will vary depending on net gaming revenues generated.

A. Payment amounts are determined by a point system. Adults age 18 to 54 receive 1 point and Elders Age 55 and older receive 2 points.

**Example:** Using the chart below the calculation for Elders is the point schedule multiplied by the number of Elders ( $2 \times 715 = 1430$ ). From this number the Allocation Percentage is calculated by using the points divided by the total of both groups points ( $1430 / 3929 = .3639603$  OR **36.40%**). From this percentage the Revenue Share is calculated by using the Net Gaming Revenue multiplied by the Allocation % ( $\$2,500,000 \times 36.40\% = \$909,900.74$ ). The Revenue Share is then divided by the number of Elders ( $\$909,900.74 / 715 = \$1,272.59$ )

-Example Only-							Quarter Payment
Net Gaming Revenue	Age Group	Point Schedule	Members	Points	Allocation %	Revenue Share	
\$2,500,000.00	18 to 54 Yrs	1	2499	2499	63.60%	\$1,590,099.26	\$636.29
	55 and Older	2	715	1430	36.40%	\$909,900.74	\$1,272.59
Total			3214	3929	100%	\$2,500,000.00	

#### 11. Q. Can Per Capita payments be garnished?



**A.** Yes, Per Capita distributions may be withheld to satisfy any court ordered judgment obtained by the tribe against the qualified tribal member or to satisfy court ordered child support obligations. Any amount remaining after satisfaction of the court ordered judgment or child support obligation shall be distributed to the qualified tribal member in accordance with the provisions of the Revenue Allocation Plan.

**12. Q. Can the payment be electronically deposited into a checking or savings account?**

**A.** Yes, by completing the direct deposit form the payment may be deposited to the qualified tribal member's bank account. Contact the Members Assistance Department or Payroll to request the form and instructions. NOTE\* If you plan to move you must update your address and the direct deposit form. Direct deposit forms that do not match the information on file with enrollment will have the direct deposit cancelled until information is up to date.

**13. Q. Can state and/or federal assistance programs be affected by Per-Capita payments?**

**A.** The Tribe cannot provide guidance for all the agencies that require you to report a change in income. We encourage you to contact the agency office for further information concerning your specific questions about income based assistance programs.

**14. Q. Can a member refuse these payments?**

**A.** If the Tribal member meets the eligibility requirements of the Revenue Allocation Plan they will receive per capita payments. Many agencies will count these payments as available income to you even if you refuse the payments. We encourage you to contact the agency office for further information concerning these payments.

**15. Q. Will Per Capita payments be the same amount each time?**

**A. No.** The payments will vary depending on the amount of net gaming revenues generated each quarter. The Revenue Allocation Plan allocates 40% of the net gaming revenues to per capita payments. The revenue allocation plan sets forth the amount the tribe can disburse to tribal members. The payments are made quarterly from the gaming revenues generated.

**16. Q. Are the Per Capita payments considered income?**

**A.** Many agencies count per capita payments as income. For further information contact the agency office with specific questions you may have.

**17. Q. When are the Per Capita Payments made?**

**A.** Per Capita payments will be distributed to qualified tribal members on the first day of each fiscal quarter.

Fiscal Quarters
(1 <sup>st</sup> ) January thru March
(2 <sup>nd</sup> ) April thru June
(3 <sup>rd</sup> ) July thru September
(4 <sup>th</sup> ) October thru December

**18. Q. When will the amount of a Per Capita payment be announced?**

**A.** The amount will be announced on the main switchboard announcement at least four (4) weeks prior to a distribution. You can reach the message announcement by calling the tribe's main number (231)723-8288 or 888-723-8288 and listen to the directory prompt to the Per Capita Information extension. Due to end of the year close outs of accounting processes it is determined that the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter announcements will be delayed close to the disbursement date. This announcement will be posted when it is available.

**19. Q. Is there specific information on the date when I will be eligible for per capita payments?**

**A.**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</b> - January-March (Distributed Dec. 15)	Member must be of age 18 and 55 by the last day in <b>September</b> prior to this disbursement.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</b> - April - June	Member must be of age 18 and 55 by the last day in <b>December</b> prior to this disbursement.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</b> - July-September	Member must be of age 18 and 55 by the last day in <b>March</b> prior to this disbursement.
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter</b> - October - December	Member must be of age 18 and 55 by the last day in <b>June</b> prior to this disbursement.

**20. Q. Can I cancel a Direct Deposit request?**

**A.** Yes, Direct deposit can be cancelled by submitting a Direct Deposit Cancellation form. Contact the Members Assistance Department for this form to be mailed to you or download the form at [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com).



The spring membership meeting at Makwa Endaat April 18<sup>th</sup> was a generally quiet affair with 367 members and their families in attendance according to the count from the Election Board. The total count was over 700 attendees! As is the custom, the day started with various departmental displays at booths in the hall outside of the Three Fires Conference Center. At these 'booths' the departments presented information, games and gifts for the members to help them to know more about the work that the departments were doing. One of the favorites (at least for our young ones) was the Utility Department which had a coloring station for kids. The 'artistic' results were proudly displayed on the wall of the booth. Inside several of the large rooms, various departments also gave presentations on topics from history to taxes.

One high point early on was the distribution of the history book by the Historic Preservation Department. **Our People, Our Journey** (James M. McClurken) was being handed out by department staff in one conference room and the line started early and just kept coming well into the meeting time! THP reported that they handed out over 600 copies of the book! One note about the book, the publisher (Michigan State University Press) will be reprinting the book as they inadvertently left out some photos and some names that should have been included. They will be printing this at their own cost and it will be ready in a few months.

The Office of Public Affairs arranged for the design and printing of bookmarks for those receiving the book.

The official opening of the Membership Meeting took place on stage in the event center with Elder (and Family Services Director) Bill Memberto greeting everyone. He introduced former Ogema (and Historical Preservation Director) Jonnie "Jay" Sam to offer a prayer and everyone was treated to a welcome song by drum *Swirling Wind*.

The Warrior's Society, led by Commander Al Medacco presented the colors. *Swirling Wind* played an honor song to recognize our wonderful veterans.

Following this, Ogema Larry Romanelli was introduced by Bill Memberto. Romanelli then brought the members up to speed on some developments at their tribe. He keyed in on:

\* **Live Video Streaming.** Mack Brushman, THP Videographer, working with MIS had arranged to have one-half hour of the meeting actually broadcast live via the internet. The Ogema announced that he was working to get to the point that events such as important meetings could be 'streamed' live to members in the future.

\* **Members-Only Website.** The Ogema reported that MIS Director George LeVasseur was creating a members-only website that would allow information to be made available to members while protecting their privacy. It's not available yet but is something that is being worked on. There are some technical challenges given the various carriers and systems being used by our members who are all over the country.

\* **Rapid River News.** Romanelli reported that the tribal e-news (*Rapid River News*) has been expanded this year and has become a very popular tool to deliver information to our members.

\* **Osiyo Assessment.** Another exciting development was announced concerning a program of organizational assessment authorized by the Ogema and Tribal Council that would have an outside firm (Osiyo, Inc.) audit the way the tribal government is organized and review the needs of the tribal members to see if there was a better way to organize the government. The Ogema then introduced Ronnet Briggs, an Osiyo consultant who gave an overview of the process; what similar work had been done in Indian Country and what they hoped to provide to the tribe in the lengthy process. It is hoped that the assessment and recommendations will be completed by early fall of this year. Osiyo, Inc. is a native-owned (Cherokee) group that successfully competed for the opportunity to assess LRBOI.

\* **Constitutional Changes.** Ogema Romanelli addressed the stalled discussions concerning proposed changes to the tribal Constitution and how he hoped that the process could be re-started shortly. He suggested that the proposed changes be distributed to all tribal members and that they could choose which ones they wanted to see implemented. One such change that the Ogema recommended would be to allow all tribal members to vote on all Council seats and not just upon the current breakdown by 9- county, at large and outlying.

\* **Muskegon Property Bids.** The Ogema announced that there will be two auctions of property at the race track purchased last year by the tribe as part of the development of a possible second casino. The auctions are scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>. Go to the auctioneers' website at [www.trippauction.com](http://www.trippauction.com) for details.

\* **Revenue Allocation Plan.** Next, the Ogema had CFO Steve Wheeler give a more detailed overview of how our Revenue Allocation Plan works and how per cap is derived and by all indications the explanation was well received. Steve also took questions from the membership and sat with some of the members to help them understand the process.

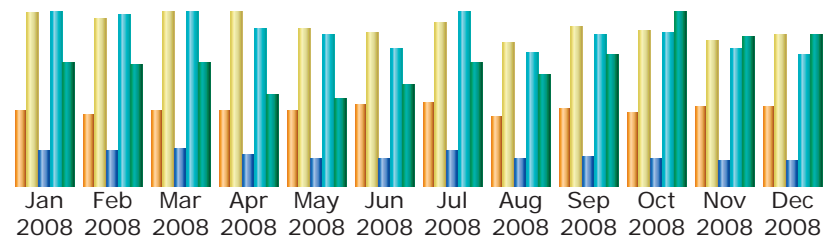
Following the opening session, everyone adjourned to an enjoyable luncheon in the Makwa Endaat prepared by the catering staff of the Little River Casino.

After lunch, the meeting reopened for an afternoon of presentations from Tribal CFO Steve Wheeler, General Manager Michael Garrow and others. This was followed by a question and answer session where members could ask questions of the Ogema and of the Tribal Council members present.

## LRBOI Website Visits

The question is, "How much usage do we see on our website at [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com)?" Joan Burkhart, the tribal webmaster prepared a graph showing a year's worth of usage including number of visitors and other data.

Given the amount of visitors, it is clear that the website is becoming a major communication tool for tribal members and tribal departments.



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2008	1740	4018	22615	111836	3.18 GB
Feb 2008	1648	3843	22860	108737	3.13 GB
Mar 2008	1756	4163	23955	114695	3.17 GB
Apr 2008	1749	4048	19395	99441	2.37 GB
May 2008	1741	3648	17836	96785	2.23 GB
Jun 2008	1864	3531	17385	87616	2.62 GB
Jul 2008	1903	3788	22128	111147	3.21 GB
Aug 2008	1589	3291	17027	84479	2.89 GB
Sep 2008	1773	3683	18868	96650	3.41 GB
Oct 2008	1687	3580	17294	96872	4.66 GB
Nov 2008	1831	3375	16328	86720	3.88 GB
Dec 2008	1846	3488	15338	83028	3.93 GB
Total	21127	44456	231029	1178006	38.68 GB

## Attention



**Tribal Members receiving Education Benefits: If you are enrolled in a degree program, a**

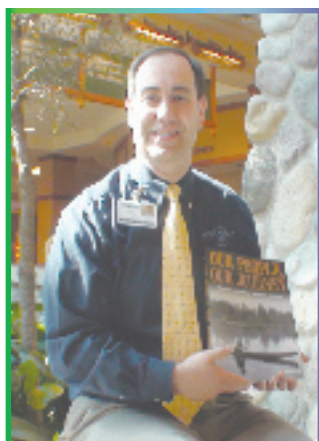
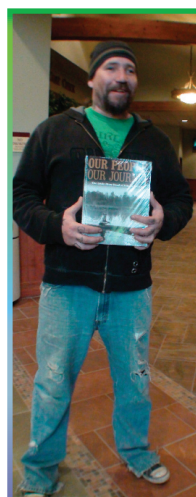
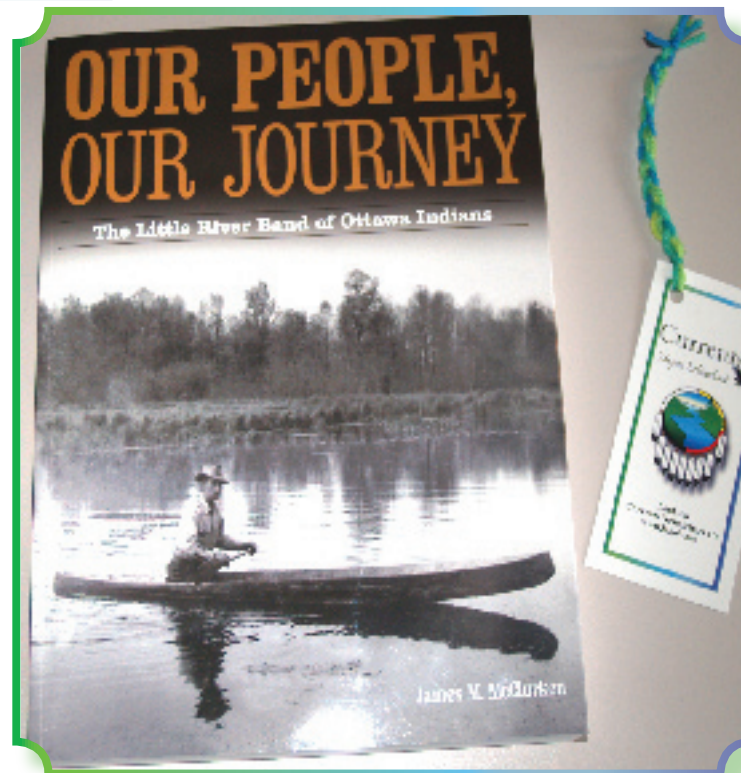
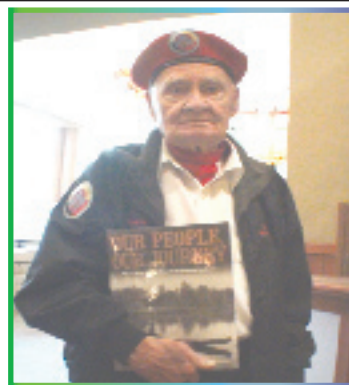
**direct mailing was sent to you announcing the new Internship Education Program through the Department of Commerce.**

**The new eligibility guidelines were included in the mailing, and can be found at [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com) at the Commerce link. Reminder: the two-part applications must be sent back to the Department of Commerce by May 8, 2009. Please contact Robert J. Memberto at 888/723/8288 (ext. 6806) if you have additional questions**



# The Book Arrives

Ziisabaakdoke-Giizis (Sugar Moon)  
May / June 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 5  
Ode' mini-Giizis (Strawberry Moon)





In what has become a regular event, Ogema Larry Romanelli held a meet-n-greet in the Three Fires Conference center on the evening before the Spring Membership Meeting.

Over 50 tribal members came to the event so that they could have a more direct talk with the Ogema concerning the tribal government and issues that they are worried about.

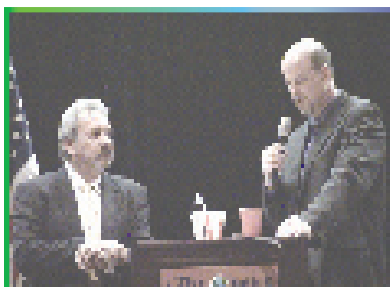
The Ogema presented a recap of issues of note to start things off and then went into a question and answer period. At one point, he had Commerce Director Robert Memberto come before the group to discuss the Muskegon Casino project. Some members had heard some wild rumors concerning the tribe's efforts to build a new casino and Memberto helped to alleviate their fears with some true facts about the project.

Early on in his role as Ogema, Romanelli started this evening event as a way to improve communications with the tribal members as this has always been a key complaint of the membership. This event, along with the changes to the Currents and the new e-news, Rapid River News are furthering his commitment to inform our members.

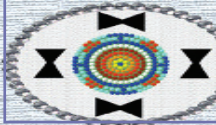
The Ogema has commented that he very much appreciates when the tribal members come to this events so that he has the opportunity to address them directly.



Ronetta Keeter  
Briggs, Osiyo  
Consultant  
addresses members







**Background & Overview:** Odawa Indian Princess Pageants began in 1939 in Petoskey, Michigan. The Miss Odawa Nation contest carries on the tradition of selecting a young, Odawa woman to represent the local community. Open to Native American girls from the ages of 13-20, Miss Odawa Nation is selected by acquiring points in a variety of categories. She must have knowledge of the customs, traditions and the history of the Odawa Nation. Please prepare the following items for your application:

1. Official Entry Application
2. Letter of Reference/Support from a mentor, tribal elder, educator, employer or other non-related adult familiar with applicant. Must include a current contact phone number.
3. Certification of Native American blood or tribal affiliation. Applicant must have Odawa heritage and be at least ¼ Native American. This certification can be in the form of a signed document from a tribal enrollment department or a copy of a tribal identification card/status card.
4. Signed Contestant Agreement (with a parent/guardian signature if under 18)
5. Current photograph: (preferably a 5x7 color photo). The photographs of Miss Odawa contestants and Miss Odawa Nation may be utilized in tribal publications.
6. Short Bio: Submit a short essay with your

application (1½ to 2 pages in length) about yourself. Share goals, ambitions, education, family, and interest/hobbies, anything you would like to include. This essay may be published publicly.

7. Submit an essay entitled, "What would I do and/or accomplish as Miss Odawa Nation?" This essay should be 1 to 2 pages long and preferably typed.
8. 2009 – 2010 Miss Odawa Nation Release Form

Miss Odawa Nation will compete in the following categories:

- Essay – "What would I do and/or accomplish as Miss Odawa Nation?"
- Biography
- Public Speaking
- Interview
- Dance Exhibition

All contestants will be judged according to the above criteria. The contestant with the highest accumulated points will be crowned Miss Odawa Nation for one year.

### Application Checklist

The application process requires submitting the following items to Winnay Wemigwase, Miss Odawa Nation Program, 7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, Michigan 49740. Applications will be accepted until 12:00 Noon on Saturday, August 15, 2009.

**PLEASE NOTE: ADDITIONAL POINTS WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE CONTESTANTS WHO SUBMIT ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS BY:  
AUGUST 7TH, 2009**

Please submit:

- ☐ Official Entry Application
- ☐ Letter of Reference/Support
- ☐ Proof of Tribal Affiliation
- ☐ Signed Contestant Agreement
- ☐ Current Photograph
- ☐ 1-2 page essay about yourself (Biography)
- ☐ 1-2 page essay: "What would I do and/or accomplish as Miss Odawa Nation?"

To: Winnay Wemigwase  
Miss Odawa Nation Program  
7500 Odawa Circle  
Harbor Springs, MI 49740

If you would like more information, please contact Winnay Wemigwase at 231-242-1453 or e-mail [wwemigwase@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov](mailto:wwemigwase@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov).

MIIGWECH AND GOOD LUCK!

## Live the Legacy...

# 2009 Miss Odawa Nation Contest

Since 1939, a crown has been worn by young Odawa women who demonstrate the finest qualities.

**To be considered for this high honor, you must be...**

**Between the ages of 13 and 20.**

**A positive role model for all youth.**

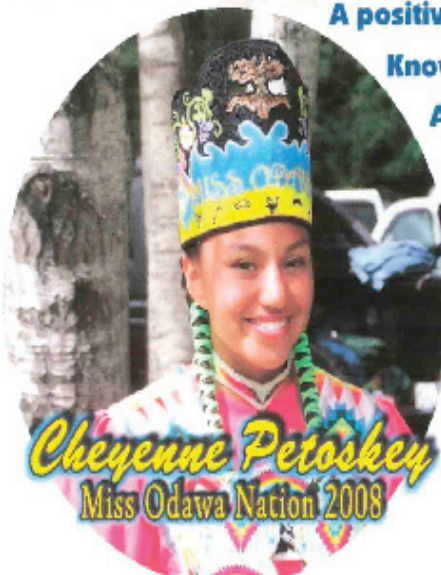
**Knowledgeable in Odawa culture.**

**A young lady with Odawa lineage.**

**Single with no dependents.**

**A confident public speaker.**

**A powwow dancer.**



**Cheyenne Petoskey**  
Miss Odawa Nation 2008

Held at the  
Odawa Homecoming Pow Wow  
Saturday, Aug. 15, 2009

Application materials available on-line at:  
[www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov](http://www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov) (click **Announcements**)  
or contact Winnay Wemigwase at 231-242-1453.

**BRULÉ AND AIRO**  
AMERICAN INDIAN ROCK OPERA

A POWERFUL & UPLIFTING  
PERFORMANCE  
Featuring a unique blend of contemporary  
Native American music highlighted by  
traditional rhythms and dance

**SATURDAY  
AUG. 15, 2009  
10:00PM**

**ODAWA CASINO RESORT  
PETOSKEY, MI**

AS SEEN ON  
**OPBS**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT**  
Starticketsplus.com  
Or call 800-585-3737 **startickets**

[www.brulerecords.com](http://www.brulerecords.com)



## (CHS) and Extended Health Assistance Program (EHAP)

Aanii.

Happy spring! It seems like it was never going to get here. I only have a few requests and reminders for all of you. First, please remember that we need copies of any and ALL insurance cards you have. Also, you need to make sure that your cards are presented to ALL your physicians, dentists, pharmacies, and hospitals that you use for medical services. Second, if you are receiving a bill for an approved service, chances are that WE are not receiving that bill. If this is happening, please contact your CHS/EHAP worker immediately so we can get the vendor to bill us. This will save you from getting threatening collection letters.

Finally, remember that we need at least 10 business days to approve ANY pre-authorization for testing (MRI, CT scan, Physical Therapy, etc.) During this time frame we will need the notes from the ordering physician as to why this testing/treatments are necessary. If the testing/treatments are approved, you will be notified by your CHS/EHAP worker right away. If the ordering physician states the testing/treatment cannot wait 10 business days, he or she needs to send the documentation to us immediately for an emergent consideration. Remember to call with any questions or concerns you may have. Our toll free number is 1.888.382.8299 or locally 231.723.8299.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Gina Wright, CHS/EHAP Supervisor



Have a great spring!

## Employees leaving

An employee pot luck was held in mid-March in the Dome Room and it was a bit sad as some longtime employees are leaving. Janis Compeau from Finance, Julie Ramsey from Enrollment and Dorothy Rose from Family Services are taking a different path.

The occasional potlucks are being held now since the monthly Employee luncheons were not funded in 2009.



## Commodities

Food Distribution Program ( FDPIR ) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households.

No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Food Stamp Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification.

In determining who is eligible for the program.

We

are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

Net Monthly Income Standards

October 1, 2008 & October 1, 2009

1. \$ 1,011.00
2. \$ 1,311.00
3. \$ 1,611.00
4. \$ 1,914.00
5. \$ 2,239.00
6. \$ 2,564.00
7. \$ 2,864.00
8. \$ 3,164.00

For each additional member add \$ 300.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake

Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M

Lunch hour is 12:00 1:00

Yvonne Theodore, George Lawrence, Laurie Jackson

1-888-723-8288 ask for

Commodity Program

Office # are 231-398-6715 or

231-398-671



*Continued from April Newsletter*

## A NAME

For a Native American raised outside of their native community, a search for identity often is part of their journey to recovery.

"Community identity is real important and sometimes that is achieved through receiving a name," Burger said.

To a Native American, a name — sometimes called a spirit name — given to them by an elder means more than just something they are called by others; a name can give a direction in life.

"When I was about 2 years old, my aunt named me. She gave me the name Ogema quay. Ogema quay means the head woman. Now there are a lot of teachings in our Anishnaabe culture about the responsibilities of the ogemaquay, and I've had a lot of those teachings through my life that really give me a direction that I need to go and live my life and be a part of the community. And I have to say I'm probably doing it. That's really important. A name is not just something somebody says, it's something they understand about you, or see in you, or some quality, and then it really evolves into responsibilities later. That's a really old way of thinking."

She offers another example using a non-native name.

"If a kid is named John, nobody thinks about what that really means," said Burger, a Brethren High School graduate and nursing graduate of West Shore Community College.

"But if you just put in the context of Western society, and you took the name John and applied Western Christianity to it, he'd have to live up to the spirit of John the Baptist." Getting a name can be part of a treatment plan — if the person asks.

## CEREMONIES, FEASTS

Burger noted ceremonies are a part of native Americans living their culture.

There's a naming feast, a feast for the change of season in spring, usually after the first thunderstorm comes through awakening the earth.

"We get together, make food and talk about why it is important," she said. "It is important because Indian people have such a connection to the Earth, to the environment and to their surroundings and that is a really integrated part in their identity. When that storm comes through and it's time to have a feast for that storm, we are making an acknowledgment of the change of the seasons. It's just something that strengthens that connection, that awareness of and that respect for the environment and the people around you. You learn through doing, that's a very respectful thing to do, to acknowledge that connection with the earth."

Another soon-to-occur feast involves women going to Lake Michigan after ice goes out to perform the water ceremony. Native American women, she noted, are responsible for taking care of water "because it is the giver of life."

## CONNECTING

"Some of our people are lost, too, without their culture," Burger said.

Many were not raised in their culture, or perhaps like her, weren't taught their language in the belief speaking only English would help them fit in with American society.

"But now as I go along through life and I am learning more and more, all the explanations are there, I just don't worry about it," Burger said. "This is the way it is. I have more of an awareness of that connection as I get older."

The techniques of each culture have a role, she and the other counselors say, in helping native Americans dealing with substance abuse and other behavioral issues.

"AA teaches people to cope. Learning and using the medicine wheel philosophy is both a cultural matter and a coping mechanism," Drake said.

"They get there through getting involved in their culture. They learn from each other. Some have AA sponsors, and they learn from them and they learn spiritual connections from the healer,

"Culture is a taught process, the western culture. In the native American culture, we just accept it. What we believe is just what we believe and that's our belief system. And I think what Jessica is saying is ... we don't explain it, we just do it and we do that, too. This is the first time I've worked with native Americans. I've been here since August, and it's been a real eye-opener and I've really enjoyed it. It's a learning experience for me," Drake said.

"I don't see it as any different than our own beliefs, it's just that we understand our culture, they understand their culture, and it comes naturally because that is how we are raised. And some of our people are lost too, without any identity because they've missed that bringing up of morals and values and all that. So they're lost in their culture, too, as the native Americans are.

"People learn new coping methods through the 12 steps, they learn how to ask for help, they learn all the things the native Americans learn in their own way," Drake said. Basically we're pretty much alike. We just see each other as different. Does that make sense?"

Courtesy – Ludington Daily News

## Ogema takes Health Fight to D.C.

LRBOI Ogema Larry Romanelli went to Washington D.C. in late March and took the Indian Health Service (IHS) to task for not living up to its end of the bargain by paying the contract health costs that it owes us. Romanelli spoke before the House Appropriations Committee Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies addressing the fiscal year 2010 budget.

Romanelli told the Subcommittee, "We fully honor our compact with IHS, just as we have honored our prior self-determination agreements....but IHS has not honored its bargain with us." He pointed out that IHS has failed to pay the tribe the contract support costs that the IHS itself calculates is owed to the tribe. Romanelli called it, "...a truly stunning admission of the agency's breach of our rights."

The Ogema went on in his testimony to point out that our Tribal Health department provides a better quality of health service than many areas but still receives the lowest level of funding (Lowest Level of Need or LNF) in all of IHS territory. He spoke about the Bemidji Area's health challenges and the fact that we only receive 37% of our LNF despite having more problems such as a low life expectancy; worst rate of diabetes; highest rate of heart disease and an extremely high rate of cancer among our members.

In closing Ogema Romanelli asked the group to address this disparity of funds and to consider conducting a study across all IHS areas in conjunction with the tribes to determine their full needs.

Go to the website ([www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com)) and the Ogema's page where you can read the full transcript of his speech.

## Fund Raiser in Muskegon

Chi Miigwetch to the following people, who donated financially, in services, or auction items, for the Captian family fundraiser:

Deb Miller, Hon. Dan Bailey, Gene Zeller, Spring Tuttle, Detective Graubowski, Mary Witkop, Ogema Romanelli, Jeanie Gibson, Dan and Mary Belikan, Shelly Kequom, Janine Sam, Joe Martin, Melissa Waitner, Dan Shepard, Candace Chapman, Lee Iverson, Roma Battice, Austin Bruaker.

And a special thank you to Ogema Romanelli and former Ogema Lee Sprague, and everyone else who showed up for the event.

The total amount raised, after costs, was \$2301.75.  
(submitted by Angela Sherigan, Associate Judge)





Prayer Tie event



For several days in a row, the Historic Preservation Department held lunch and work sessions at their offices on River Street in Manistee where government employees (and others) could come in and help prepare prayer ties. The piles of Sema (tobacco), cloth (red, black, white, yellow) and colored ribbon quickly became the small bags which are used historically throughout the tribe.

Tobacco has a special relationship to other plants: it is said to be the main activator of all the plant spirits. It is like the key to the ignition to the car. When you use it, all things begin to happen. Tobacco is always offered before picking medicines. When you offer tobacco to a plant and explain why you are there, that plant will let the plants in the area know why you are coming to pick them.

When you seek the help and advice of an Elder, Healer, or Medicine Person, and give your offering of tobacco, they know that a request may be made, as tobacco is so sacred. We express our gratitude for the help the spirits give us through our offering of tobacco. It is put down

as an offering of thanks to the First family, the natural world, after a fast. Traditional people make an offering of tobacco each day when the sun comes up. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was blessed several years ago when Natural Resource Director Jimmie Mitchell was presented with Sema seeds from the Smithsonian Institute. Those seeds came from our area over 150 years ago. Since that time, the Natural Resource Department has been cultivating Sema outside their offices in Eastlake.

ANISHINAABE WORD SEARCH  
Find and the word  
Up, Down, Across & Diagonally

B Z G B X J B J Q L K K B K L V T H D  
R T N Q L F N I M A A D N A M R B K F  
W L A M C Q C I B C M S K W A M I N D  
B P G T K L D S N D K Q M L P N T N N  
P Z A Z K W Q E D I T K V Y I K I T Z  
A I A N I F R N J L M B L M F M J I K  
K I S B T I N H J F G I S N S L I R K  
W T A G I V S S O J V A I I Z W B W T  
E A W B N J T I D Z W Z I J A M A D L  
Z A R N L F I Z B G A D D A I S T G K  
H G F I K Q F I I A A A G R M N B V T  
I A L M N T P I Z W A I W A T H M M P  
G N R O C A W H K A M K A E G R N I W  
A Z K N R G A S C I G N W K M K N X J  
A R F I T T M W D Z B A M A Z I T G G  
N K M M N M N E A R L N N K T L D R D  
H B X A D E M I N W C C R Z T N K E Y  
S J B Z A A Z I G I K W A D E N H S J  
W T M V B V N J T N I M I I H S P Z D

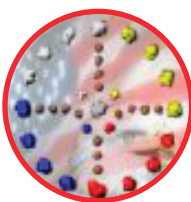
MIIJIM (food)

ADEMIN	(Heart berry)	PAKWEZHIGAANHS	(cookie)
BIJIZAGAN	(Bread)	PIN	(potato)
JISENHS	(carrot)	PSHIIMIN	(apple)
KWASMAAN	(pumpkin)	WASAAGANG	(pepper)
MANDAAMIN	(corn)	WAWAAN	(egg)
MINOMIN	(rice)	WIIGWASMIN	(cherry)
MNIJIIMIN	(pea)	ZAAZIGIKWADENHS	(fry bread)
MSKWADIISMIN	(bean)	ZIISIBAAKWAT	(sugar)
MSKWAMIN	(raspberry)	ZIITAAGAN	(salt)
OZAAWEMIDE	(butter)	ZIIWAAGIMIDE	(syrup)

Anishinaabemowin damnawin  
Match the words to Anishinaabemowin

Ninj	Sun
Ademin	I, me, myself
Animokaajinh	My father
Jiingtamok	Hand
Ogema	Coat
Niin	Heartberry
Aabta	Pow wow
Giizis	Dog
Biiskowaagan	Half
Noos	Leader





Upcoming PBS Mini-series on Native American History. We Shall Remain is a groundbreaking mini-series and provocative multi-media project that establishes Native history as an essential part of American

history. Five 90-minute documentaries spanning three hundred years tell the story of pivotal moments in U.S. history from the Native American perspective.

Episode 1 After the Mayflower (PBS PREMIERE ON APRIL 13, 2009)

In 1621, the Wampanoag of New England negotiated a treaty with Pilgrim settlers. A half-century later, as a brutal war flared between the English and a confederation of Indians, this diplomatic gamble seemed to have been a grave miscalculation.

Episode 2 Tecumseh's Vision (PBS PREMIERE ON APRIL 20, 2009)

In the course of his brief and meteoric career, Tecumseh would become one of the greatest Native American leaders of all time, orchestrating the most ambitious pan-Indian resistance movement ever mounted on the North American continent.

Episode 3 Trail of Tears (PBS

PREMIERE ON APRIL 27, 2009)

Though the Cherokee embraced "civilization" and won recognition of tribal sovereignty in the U.S. Supreme Court, their resistance to removal from their homeland failed. Thousands were forced on a perilous march to Oklahoma.

Episode 4 Geronimo (PBS PREMIERE ON MAY 4, 2009)

As the leader of the last Native American fighting force to capitulate to the U.S.

government, Geronimo was seen by some as the perpetrator of unspeakable savage cruelties, while to others he was the embodiment of proud resistance.

Episode 5 Wounded Knee (PBS PREMIERE ON MAY 11, 2009)

In 1973, American Indian Movement activists and residents of the Pine Ridge Reservation occupied the town of Wounded Knee, demanding redress for grievances. As a result of the siege, Indians across the country forged a new path into the future. PBS Television Series At the heart of the project is a five-part television series that shows how Native peoples valiantly resisted expulsion from their lands and fought the extinction of their culture -- from the Wampanoags of New England in the 1600s who used their alliance with the English to weaken rival tribes, to the bold new leaders of the 1970s who harnessed the momentum of the civil rights movement to forge a pan-Indian identity. We

Shall Remain represents an unprecedented collaboration between Native and non-Native filmmakers and involves Native advisors and scholars at all levels of the project.

Web & New Media

An in-depth Web site will serve the general public, educators, and students, offering educational resources and several hours of

extensive Teacher's Guide for social studies educators. The guide will incorporate video segments from the five documentaries into social studies resources, offering both viewing and comprehension aids and classroom activities. This resource will inspire and

support teachers to integrate

Native history and issues into their curricula and encourage them to present Native history as an integral part of American history.

National Library Initiative WGBH is working closely with the American Library Association (ALA) and its 2007-2008 President Lorie Roy (White Earth Anishinabe) to build awareness of the series among librarians, Native organizations, scholars, and writers. Ms. Roy is also collaborating with WGBH to develop innovative ideas for how to use We Shall Remain materials to serve the unique needs of local communities and tribal libraries. A library event kit developed specifically for public, college, school, and tribal libraries will be distributed to 17,000 public libraries, as well as to all tribal libraries. The kit offers

programming ideas and resources to help libraries organize and deliver engaging events related to We Shall Remain. Features include storytelling days, Native literature reading circles, cross-cultural art projects for youth, discussion forums, guidelines for evaluating media about Native peoples, and an extensive bibliography of book, film, and Internet resources.

streaming video. Part of PBS Online, one of the leading dot-org sites on the Internet, the We Shall Remain site will feature Web-exclusive videos exploring contemporary topics such as language revitalization efforts, Native enterprise and tribal sovereignty. The site will also host behind-the-scenes production stories, streaming of the ReelNative films, and information about upcoming events across the nation.

ReelNative

This unique project offers Native Americans a venue to share their stories with a national audience. At workshops in Arizona, Massachusetts, and Oklahoma, participants ranging in age from fourteen to fifty-five were taught to produce short films. Quirky, touching, funny, and profound, the films reveal the diversity of the contemporary Native experience and testify to the resilience of Native people and culture.

Community Engagement Campaign

A nationwide community outreach campaign is engaging Native communities and organizations, Native radio, public television stations, universities, museums, schools, and libraries. The events, activities, and dialogue that come out of these relationships will extend We Shall Remain's crucial message to invite audiences to tune in to the broadcast.

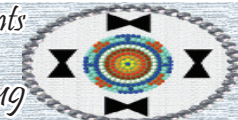
Educator Resources

The We Shall Remain Web site will launch an



Cast and Crew





## Tax Exemption Changes at Little River Trading Post

Some Tribal members have asked about the change in their tax exemption on motor fuel at the Little River Trading Post. In an effort to simplify the processing time and improve customer service at the register, a change was made in the method of computing the sales tax exemption for resident tribal members. In order to understand this change, it is important to understand the difference in taxes that are included in motor fuel.

Excise taxes are currently based on a fixed amount per gallon of fuel. At the current time, Michigan's gasoline excise tax is 19¢ per gallon of gas and 15¢ per gallon of diesel fuel. This amount doesn't change regardless of the price of the fuel you are purchasing. There is a key on the cash register that simply multiplies the number of gallons purchased in the transaction by the appropriate fixed amount and automatically deducts the Michigan excise tax from your receipt. This exemption is set up in the cash register and requires only one keystroke to calculate and deduct the tax.

The cash register system currently being used at the Little River Trading Post is not capable of exempting sales tax on motor fuel since the fuel is priced with excise and sales taxes included. Michigan sales tax is currently 6% of the selling price after applicable deductions. Michigan allows a deduction for Michigan excise tax and for tax included in gross. Therefore, to calculate the sales tax on a gallon of gas you must first subtract the excise tax and the tax in gross. Then you multiply the taxable balance by the sales tax rate (6%). For example; if gas is \$2.369 per gallon the following computations are required to determine the sales tax amount. [ $\$2.369 - .19 = 2.179$ ] To determine the tax in gross you can divide the balance (\$2.179) by 17.6667. The following formula can be used to determine the sales tax per gallon if the price of gas is \$2.369. [ $(\$2.369 - .19) / 17.6667 = .1233$ ] The sales tax per gallon is multiplied by the total number of gallons purchased to determine the RTM sales tax exemption. Of course the formula changes if the tribal member is also getting an employee discount because an additional 5¢ per gallon must be deducted before calculating the tax in gross. The formula is also different for diesel fuel because the excise tax to be deducted is 15¢ per gallon.

Since the procedure for calculating the sales tax amount is so complicated, several different methods have been used at the station to simplify the process. Originally, four different charts were printed which calculated the sales tax amount per gallon for a range of prices. A separate chart was required for; gas sale to RTM (not employee), gas sale to RTM employee, diesel fuel sale to RTM (not employee), and diesel fuel sales to RTM employee. The cashier had to determine which chart to use, look up the sales tax amount per gallon depending on which grade of fuel was purchased, multiply it by the number of gallons

purchased on a separate calculator, and subtract the result on a discount key on the cash register. Each manual step involved in the process increases the possibility for human error. In addition, new charts had to be prepared when gas prices went above or below the listed prices.

Beginning January 1, 2009, a new method was implemented to simplify the sales tax exemption. An average sales tax amount per gallon was calculated based on the selling price of all fuel during the last week of December 2008. A new chart was prepared using the single, per-gallon rate multiplied by the number of gallons purchased. This reduced the processing time required at the cash register. However, since gas prices were higher in January than they were when the average sales tax was computed, resident tribal members may have noticed their RTM discount was slightly less than the actual sales tax amount. The average sales tax per-gallon rate was changed on February 1st based on the selling price of fuel during the last week of January. Because fuel prices went down in February, the RTM discount was slightly more than the actual sales tax amount.

Beginning March 1, 2009, the average sales tax per-gallon rate was recalculated based on the selling price of fuel during the last 10 days of February. To further simplify the process at the point of sale, the sales tax per-gallon rate was added to the excise tax rate on the cash register. Now the average sales tax per-gallon rate and the state excise tax per-gallon rate are combined and deducted with one keystroke. This significantly reduces not only the time it takes to ring up the sale, but also the error rate. It also results in a substantial time savings for processing the fuel receipts, fuel logs, and inventories that are required by the State/Tribe Tax Agreement.

The new method will decrease Tribal tax revenue due to the fact that the average sales tax rate is now given to all Tribal members. However, the improved accuracy and faster processing time at the register and at the office appear to justify this change. Hopefully, a new data system using a Tribal ID card-reader will be installed in the not too distant future. Tribal members who still have questions about the new tax exemption method can call the Tax Office at 231-398-6874 for more information.

## Change in Tax-Exempt Motor Fuel Quota

Notice to Tribal Members: Effective April 1, 2009, the tax-exempt motor fuel monthly limit will change to 175 gallons per Tribal member. Tribal members are responsible for keeping track of their gallons. Penalties will be applied for over-limit purchases.



## Native American Ministry - Muskegon

*May 16 Cemetery clean-up  
St Joseph / Elbridge Kateri Circle  
Kateri Tekakwitha Center  
3802 144th ave. Hart, Mi. 9-2 pm  
bring tools for raking, weed wacking  
gloves, any tool that can clean a cemetery  
Lunch will be served and coffee and juice*

*July Summer Gathering  
Krause Park July 26  
11am - 3 pm  
Potluck-dish to pass  
Meat and rolls provided*

*Halloween Gathering  
Oct. 18, 2009 11-3pm  
St Thomas Hall 3252 Apple Ave  
Costume party*

*Ghost Supper  
Nov 1, 2009  
11 am to 3 pm Sunday  
Potluck-Dish to pass  
Bingo-Door prizes-Raffles  
Patti-755-4865*

*Christmas Gathering  
Dec. 6, 2009 11 am to 3 pm  
St. Thomas hall 3252 Apple Ave  
Potluck - Dish to pass  
Santa for the kids  
Patti - 755-4865*

*Debra Gutowski-Director  
Native Ministry  
360 Division Ave. S.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616-243-0491 x 1517*





# The Economic Stimulus and Your Tribal Members

Not only does the stimulus provide increased funding for tribal programs, it offers significant resources for individual Americans. Individual tax breaks and other payments make up more than \$100 billion of the \$787 billion stimulus package. Effective economic stimulus for tribal communities requires that all eligible individuals are able to utilize these resources. Tribal leaders have a unique opportunity and responsibility to

(1) educate their citizens about the benefits the stimulus offers their members;

(2) prepare their communities to access significant tax benefits in tax years 2009 and 2010.

## FOR ALL

### Making Work Pay Credit

What: Working Americans will receive a credit of 6.2% of their earnings – up to \$400 for individuals and \$800 for couples filing jointly.

Who: Full credit for individuals earning up to \$75,000 (couples filing jointly, earning up to \$150,000); partial credit for individuals up to \$100,000 (couples filing jointly, earning up to \$200,000).

Bottom line: \$13/week in extra take home pay for 2009; \$7.70/week extra in 2010 (if employers adjust tax withholdings). And, the credit is refundable, even those who work but don't owe federal taxes can receive the credit!

There is a related one-time payment of \$250 for some people who don't work (retirees, disabled individuals and Social Security recipients)

## FOR FAMILIES

### Earned income tax credit

What: Temporarily expands access to this refundable credit.

Who: Low income families with three children

Bottom line: These families will see a 5% increase in their credit (up to a maximum of over \$5,600) Child tax credit

What: Temporarily expands eligibility to claim the child tax credit.

Who: Families earning \$3,000 can claim a partial credit (Expanding eligibility over the 2008 threshold of \$8,500).

Bottom line: Allows very poor families to receive a refundable credit of up to \$1,000 per child.

## FOR THE DISADVANTAGED AND DISTRESSED

### Unemployment benefits

What: Unemployed Americans will receive additional benefits, be exempt from some income tax, and be eligible to access benefits for longer.

Who: Unemployed people.

Bottom line: \$25/extra per week in unemployment benefits, first \$2,400 is exempt from federal income tax, and eligibility to access at least 20 additional weeks

of benefits (with an additional 13 weeks available to those who live in 'high unemployment states')

### Food stamps

What: Expansion of food stamp payments by 13.6%

Who: Current food stamp recipients

Bottom line: An additional \$80/month for a family of four.

## FOR HOMES

### First-time homebuyer credit

What: Refundable credit of \$8,000 for new home purchase before Dec 1, 2009

Who: Full credit for individuals earning up to \$75,000 (couples filing jointly, earning up to \$150,000); partial credit for individuals up to \$95,000 (couples filing jointly, earning up to \$190,000).

Bottom line: Up to \$8,000 for first-time home owners (and those who have not owned for three years). The credit is refundable.

### Energy efficiency improvements

What: Tax credit to cover 30 percent of eligible costs (up to \$1,500)

Who: Homeowners who make eligible improvements (e.g. add energy-efficient windows, furnaces, heat pumps and air conditioners; replace leaky windows or add insulation).

Bottom line: Up to \$1,500 to make homes more energy efficient.

## FOR CARS

### New car deduction

What: Deduction of state and local sales tax on the purchase of a new car, light truck, RV or motorcycle

Who: Those who purchase a new vehicle valued up to \$49,500 in 2009

Bottom line: Reduced tax liability ranging above 5% of the purchase price of a new vehicle

## FOR EDUCATION

### American Opportunity Tax Credit

What: A temporary expansion of the Hope Scholarship tax credit (currently \$1,800)

Who: Full credit up to \$80,000 for individuals (\$160,000 for couples filing jointly); partial credit for individuals earning less than \$90,000 (\$180,000 for couples filing jointly)

Bottom line: \$2,500 credit (\$1,000 of which is refundable) provides additional funds to support working families to send kids to college (and for students paying their own way)

### Pell Grant

What: Increases maximum Pell Grant and expands their availability

Who: Pell Grant eligible students

Bottom line: Increases the maximum grant by \$500 to \$5,350 in 2009 and \$5,550 in 2010. Adds funding to support an additional 800,000 students

### 529 savings plans

What: Expands eligible uses of tax-deferred 529 college savings plans to include computers and computer technologies (including internet access and software)

Who: Those making withdrawals from 529 plans

Bottom line: Those saving in 529s can purchase computers and related technologies with pre-tax income

Please note: Many of the tax provisions are related to tax years 2009 and 2010 and do not affect this year's tax

preparation process. The analysis in this document is only an initial guide. NCAI will be providing further assistance through stimulus webinars and at [www.ncai.org/stimulus](http://www.ncai.org/stimulus).





## Daniel Mejia



Before being introduced to the Indian Health Service programs that could benefit Daniel Mejia's life, he resided in the city of Lansing, Michigan. While living in this area, he was not entitled to access the Contract Health

Services that were being offered by his tribe. Daniel a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, now resides on his tribal homelands which is part of Manistee County. Since moving to this new area, Daniel has become eligible to access his Tribal Health Services. By doing this, he has begun a journey to a better and healthier lifestyle.

As of now, Daniel is very grateful for the conveniences that his Tribal Contract Health Services has to offer. Since moving within the designated service area five years ago, Daniel has continued to receive quality health care that includes having a Contract Health Service Specialist make arrangements for him to obtain medical appointments. Also, the Contract Health Services Specialists are always there to listen and help him with any problems that might occur.

Now at age forty-five, and with the need to use the Contract Health Services, Daniel believes that by using these and all the Tribal Medical Services, he has been able to live a better lifestyle.

Before becoming eligible for the services, Daniel had a hard time finding medical services that would accommodate his needs. For instance, besides being able to see Dr. Julie Dixon, D.O. the tribal physician, Daniel feels that he receives reliable and dependable services from the entire Tribal Medical Staff.

Besides the medical services he receives at the tribal clinic, Daniel now has the opportunity to receive transportation to his much needed Specialist appointments that are within the guidelines of the Indian Health Services Transportation Program. The requested transportation services are provided by the Tribes Community Health Representatives.

The Community Health Representatives, also known as CHR's do a variety of work to promote good health. In addition to transporting Tribal Members to their necessary medical appointments; the Tribal CHR's will check Tribal Members blood pressure and blood sugar levels, and are also willing to help many members with any paper work that may be required for medical care or services.

Because Daniel has an eye disease, hearing problems and high blood pressure, he is on a mission to live a healthier lifestyle. Although Daniel has been referred to other specialists for certain health problems, he believes that Dr. Julie Dixon, D.O. is a very caring and helpful doctor. He also hopes that the tribe will one day be able to have yet another physician to help accommodate the growing Tribal Members health needs.

By doing this, Daniel believes that he and other Tribal Members will have a greater chance of living a better and healthier lifestyle.

MII GWETCH!

Martin L. Trevan (CHR Worker)

## New Marketing Director at LRCR



Early in March, the Little River Casino Resort brought on a new face to lead the marketing department, Eileen Duffin. The *Currents* had an opportunity to interview Eileen

and found her to be a marketing professional with a great background in the gaming industry.

Eileen is working on the structure of the whole marketing system at the casino with an eye to improving lines of communication both internally and externally. She is focused on developing ways to increase business and improve relations throughout our marketing area.

Welcome Eileen Duffin, the new Director of Marketing for the Little River Casino Resort!

## Investment in Visitors



### LRCR continues support of CVB

"Without visitors to Manistee and the Little River Casino Resort, plainly stated, we don't make any money!" This statement by Eileen Duffin, the Director of Marketing, was the motivation behind a recent ceremony at the Resort involving the Manistee County Visitors Bureau. At the ceremony, General Manager Michael Garrow presented the CVB with a check for \$30,000. This amount represents our annual level of support for the actions of the CVB.

As Duffin explained it, this money is an investment in the only county organization that is focused entirely upon attracting visitors to the Manistee area. Convention and Visitors Bureau staff members travel around the region talking to conventions and trade show organizers and other groups of people about the beauties of the Manistee area on behalf of the various lodging facilities that cater to visitors.

In a recent interview, the Director of the CVB Judy Ball stated that, "as the largest lodging and entertainment facility in the county, Little River is a major draw that benefits all of our county businesses from the restaurants and charter fishing boat operators to the golf course managers and store owners. We are proud to have them as a member of the CVB and look forward to an excellent future together."

Little River Casino Resort offers almost 300 rooms, a 100-site full-service

RV park as well as gaming, conference and entertainment venues.

Present for the ceremony were Michael Garrow, General Manager; Judy Ball, CVB Executive Director; Eileen Duffin, Director of Marketing and LRCR Hotel Manager Charmaine Stone.

## Casino Board meetings scheduled

- May 29, 2009 Board of Directors Open Session to be held in the Grand River Room at 4:00 p.m.

- June 26, 2009 Board of Directors Open Session to be held in the Grand River Room in the Casino at 4:00 p.m.





## ZAGIDWIN "Love"

**Wawashkesh**  
"Deer Clan"



Love, is one of the most complex emotions that we can experience. Young and old, male and female, we all at one time or another will experience the strongest feelings we can have. As soon as human beings could speak they have tried to explain love through poems, stories, and songs. They have tried to put the emotion of love into words; they even tried to capture love in pictures and movies. This way of expressing the emotion of love, pales by comparison to the actual love we feel for our mothers, the first time a mother holds her new born child, and the feeling of a new interpersonal relationship. These are different ways of expressing love, each have their own set of norms. However each is just as intense as the other. As Anishinaabek, it is the love for all things that keeps us going and guides us to make the right and ethical choices.

Quote from the Seven Grandfather Teaching:  
"Love: to know love is to know peace:

Feel and give absolute kindness for all things around you. To love yourself is to live at peace with the creator and in harmony with all creation. Love is to feel and give complete kindness for all things around you. Love is based upon affection, respect, kindness, unselfish loyalty, devotion and concern. Love your brother and sister and share with them. Love cannot be demanded...it must be earned and given freely from the goodness of your heart."

Let me tell you a story, I am sure some of you may have heard it before; I have learned many things in my life time, and I agree with the sentence "To love yourself is to live at peace with the creator and in harmony with all creation." I had to learn that in order to care for and love others. But what I found is the greatest gift is the gift of unconditional love. When another person gives their love without any conditions or reservation, it is this kind of love that humbles you. The only thing you can do is open your heart, and with everything you have, you return their love. This is a story; my journey with my youngest son, his name is Little Turtle. Yes, he has taught me the meaning of unconditional love, it is humbling me to, to receive such a gift. Each day he gives me hugs and kisses, because he just wants me close to him. When it is time for me to come home from work he waits for me.

When I open the door to my house and walk in, there he is with the biggest smile and eyes that light up, as he gives me a hug and says

Daddddy! That is how I know when I am truly home. Miigwech.

In Peacemaking, love can speed up the healing process; it can bring the two participants together by bringing forward feelings of affection, respect, kindness, unselfish loyalty, devotion and concern for one another.

If you have love between the two parties, this is a good place to start. The Peacemakers can guide the participants to understand Love in a way that they are able to think about the good of everyone involved this will

create an environment where their feelings of affection and caring for one another emerge. This is when the participants become unselfish and they are open to work towards an agreement.

By Patrick D. Wilson



### LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS

#### PEACEMAKING/PROBATION DEPARTMENT

3031 Tamias Road • Manistee, Michigan 49660

Phone: (231) 398-2239 FAX: (231) 398-3404



## PEACEMAKING TALKING CIRCLE

### The Peacemaking Department will be holding there monthly Peacemaking Talking Circle

on

April 27, 2009, at 5:30pm

The Talking Circle will be at the Justice Center.



This months Talking Circle topic is  
"Working Together"  
Having a positive influence on our  
community



"Odenaang Enjinoojimoying"





## BREAKFAST: THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL

The word breakfast comes from the idea that one is breaking the fast that happened during the night. When you wake up in the morning, it has been about 12 hours since your body has had a snack or something to eat. Your body needs energy that comes from food to get started for the day.

Benefits of breakfast:

- Jumpstarts your body to a healthful beginning of your day.
- By eating breakfast you will be more alert and able to concentrate. (Important for work and school)
- The body won't be spending the rest of the day trying to catch up for the nutrients missed in the morning.
- Helps you lose weight by not feeling hungry and overeating the rest of the day.
- Breakfast can supply the body with  $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{3}$  of the nutrients needed for the day.

MyPyramid food choices:

- Choose foods from several food groups.
- Choose whole grains for the energy and fiber.
- Choose cereals low in sugar since the body does not need the extra calories.
- Choose whole fruit rather than juice for a good source of fiber and vitamins.
- Choose the dairy group for calcium.

If you are in a hurry, try foods you can grab and go such as toast, yogurt, fruit or make a smoothie.



Score big on breakfast



## CARBOHYDRATES, CALCIUM AND VITAMIN D

Carbohydrates, calcium and Vitamin D are important for a healthy and strong body.

**Carbohydrates** are found in the grain group, vegetable group (highest in beans, peas and corn), fruit group and milk group. Carbohydrates **function** as a quick source of energy, spare the burning of muscle and allow for more efficient burning of fat. You should get more than half your calories per day in carbohydrates.

**Calcium** is a mineral found in dairy products like milk, yogurt and cheese. Other sources of calcium are enriched (added to) orange juice, rice and soy beverages. Calcium **functions** to build and repair bones and teeth. Calcium also helps regulate the heartbeat, nerves and muscles.

**Vitamin D** is found only in a few food sources: fatty fish such as salmon, fish oil, liver and egg yolks. Other foods are enriched with vitamin D such as milk and soy drinks. Vitamin D can be made by the body, through the skin, after exposure to ultraviolet rays of the sun. Vitamin D **functions** to help the body absorb and use calcium.



Eating carbohydrates and vitamin D will help you make a big splash in the sea!



This is a public notice to interested parties. The following deceased individuals were eligible to receive a per capita distribution and did not designate a beneficiary.

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Last Known Address:</u>	<u>Date first published:</u>
Jason Loomis Dixon	3103 Clayward Drive Flint, MI. 48506	
Raymond Paul Carey	2865 Valk Street Muskegon, MI. 49444	
Rodney James Genereaux	2706 Riley S.W. Wyoming, MI. 49509	
Lawrence Ray Medacco	1637 7th Street Muskegon, MI. 49441	
Kaileigh Ann Waskiewicz	18785 8th Avenue Conklin, MI. 49403	

Persons with an interest or claim on the per capita distributions of the above named individuals should contact the LRBOI Enrollment Department to file the appropriate paperwork. After publication for three months an auction will be brought in Tribal Court to determine who is lawfully entitled to claim payment. This process will be in place until a different process is adopted.

**Y.M. Shkigwaasange Alterations**

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 Quilts

Other regalia per request

Call Yvonne McShane

@ 231-723-7250

email:

[ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com](mailto:ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com)

## Attention Aki Maadzwin Lot Owners



Muschigon Construction, LLC  
 is now available to construct  
 your new turn key home.

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 Construction offers a  
 variety of pre drawn custom home plans.

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 process from pre planning to the final finish, including

financial assistance.

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Trust Muschigon Construction... Your project\* Construction Company

ISO: Information available on Section #184 Indian Home Loans.

294 River Street  
 Manistee,  
 Michigan 49660  
 Phone: 231-398-0800  
 Fax: 231-398-0802



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## Comments or thoughts.

Hello, we, the Health Commission would like to hear from you.  
 Please take a moment to give us your thoughts/ideas of what you  
 think of the clinic.

We want to know what you think: the good and the bad.

Thank you

Please email to: [healthcommission@lrboi.com](mailto:healthcommission@lrboi.com)

or mail to:

Health Commission

PO Box 119

Manistee, Mi 49660

## Tribal Government Internships



Tribal Members interested in doing an internship with the  
 L.R.B.O.I. Tribal Government Office please contact:  
 Department of Commerce:  
 231-398-6806



## Georgiana F. Adamczak

Mrs. Georgiana F. Adamczak, age 64 of Manistee, died Tuesday, March 31, 2009. She was born in Muskegon, MI on April 11, 1944 to George and Lucille (Lewis) Pego. She married Edward Adamczak on December 13, 1990 at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Kentwood, MI. Georgiana was a member of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish in Manistee and was an Elder and Traditional Dancer with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. She is survived by her husband, Edward of Manistee; three children, Dawn (Robert) Heck of New Braunfels, TX, Alan (Monica) Pego of Grand Rapids, Roger (Austaya) Martell of Louisville, KY; seven grandchildren, Kali, Jake, Alan Jr, Jonathon, Reo, Jayda, Arianna; three sisters, Mary (Ed) Sherman of Mears, MI, Darlene Pineda of Montague, MI, Sally Jobes of Manistee; one brother, Paul (Coral) Pego, Sr. of White Cloud, MI. She was preceded in death by her parents, son, Roger Smith, her children's father, Gilbert Smith and two brothers, George Pego, Jr. and Raymond Pego. Visitation and Rosary, Friday April 3, 2009 6-8 P.M. at the Tate-King Funeral Home, Hart. The Mass of the Resurrection was offered Saturday, April 4, 2009 at 11:00 A.M. from St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish with Fr. Joseph Muszkiewicz presiding. Followed by Traditional Pipe Ceremony, Steve Lewis officiating. Interment was in the Hart Cemetery at noon, Monday, April 5, 2009.

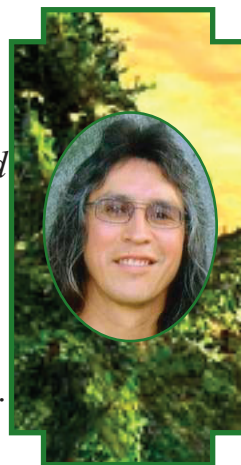


Oh Great Spirit, whose voice  
I hear in the winds  
And whose breath gives life to everyone,  
Hear me.  
I come to you as one of your many children;  
I am weak... I am small...  
I need your wisdom  
and your strength.  
Let me walk in beauty, and  
make my eyes ever  
behold the red and purple sunsets.  
Make my hands respect the  
things you have made,  
and make my ears sharp so I  
may hear your voice.  
Make me wise, so that I may understand what you  
have taught my people and  
The lessons you have hidden in  
each leaf and each rock.  
I ask for wisdom and strength,  
Not to be superior to my brothers,  
but to be able  
to fight my greatest enemy, myself.  
Make me ever ready to  
come before you with  
clean hands and a straight eye,  
So as life fades away as a fading sunset,  
My spirit may come to you without shame.

## The Lights

Eda Lou Walton

*The Sun is a luminous shield  
Borne up the blue path  
By a god;  
The moon is the torch  
Of an old man  
Who stumbles over the stars.*



## Timothy L. Radtke

Timothy L. Radtke 49 born October 20, 1959, of Wausau, Wisconsin died Sunday, March 8, 2009, at Saint Clare's Hospital.

Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Mary and Robert Stone, Wittenberg; one son, Joshua Zunker, Wausau; one daughter, Tricia Zunker, Los Angeles; one grandson and several brothers and sisters. Lutheran Services were at 11 a.m. Thursday at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Wittenberg. Traditional Services and Burial were in the Rockman-Stone Family Cemetery in Potch-chee-nunk, WI. Visitation was from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, at Schmidt-Schulta Funeral Home, Wittenberg, and again from 10 a.m. until the time of services Thursday, March 12 at the church.



## Rose M. Stone

Rose M. Stone, aged 96, of Wyoming, went to be with the Lord Saturday, March 28, 2009. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Stone; son, Bernard Stone; daughter, Betty DuBois; grandson, Blake Pannill. She is survived by her daughters, Joanne (Bob) Pannill, Romaine (Vytautas) Jonaitis; 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; six great-great grandchildren; brother, Sylvester (Maxine) Battice; two nieces, Janet (Gary) Scherer, Dianna (Bob) Gladden; several great-nieces and nephews. The Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. John Vianney Church, 4101 Clyde Park SW, with Fr. Michael Alber presiding.



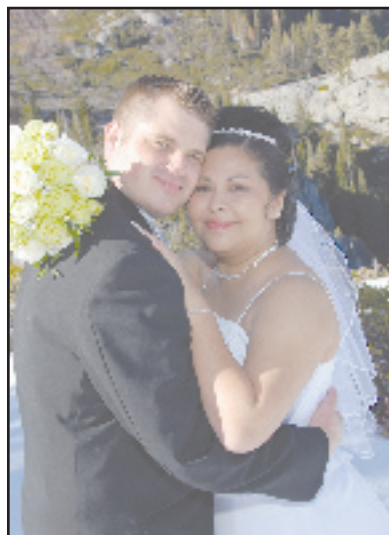
## Sun Tracks

Atoni (Choctaw)

*The Track of the sun  
across the Sky  
leaves its shining message,  
Illuminating,  
Strengthening,  
Warming,  
us who are here,  
showing us we are not alone,  
we are yet ALIVE!  
And this fire.....  
Our fire.....  
Shall not die*



## Wedding Announcement



Ron and Charlotte Kowalski are Happy to announce our Marriage which took place on March 27, 2009 in beautiful Lake Tahoe, California

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Tribal Member Mary Bower, and Eddie Feaster, on the birth of their Granddaughter Emma Ann Vonbuskirt she weighted 6 pounds 5 ounces, 19 inches long, born on January 30th 2009).

To All LRBOI Moms!



Happy Belated Birthday to Tribal Members Donna Ewing and Dean Bower from Mom, Dad, Sister, Nieces and Nephews.



Happy Birthday to Tribal Elder Nancy Bower from your Children, Grand Children and Great Grandchildren.

Happy Father's day  
to  
All LRBOI Dads!



May 15<sup>th</sup> 5pm/8pm

Community Center

Benefit for Zackary Armond Gilles

Born 2-5-2009 2 months premature

Still living in Grand Rapids due to medical problems.

Parents are Amy Gilles tribal member and her husband Patrick Gilles Tribal police officer with 8 years of service.

Bake sale/ spaghetti dinner and 50/50 raffle

\$8.00 Adults

\$4.00 kids

\$6 seniors

5 and under free

To be held at Little River Community Center  
Manistee Michigan next to McDonalds



## Kids off the Couch

*Kidsoffthecouch.com offers a free weekly e-mail that takes what kids love-good films, books, music, and digital media-and uses it to inspire family adventures. From art to architecture, to nature and sporting events, Kidsoff the couch.com connects families to each other and to the world. Each week a new "Popcorn Adventure" will arrive in your inbox brimming with freshly "popped" ideas for getting your family off the couch and into your city, movie previews, and cultural offerings to best suit your family.*

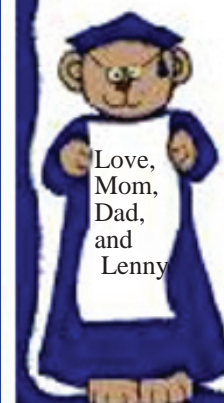
Be Sure to check out this great new website!

## Congratulations Graduate

Carolyn Frank has graduated from Montcalm Community College with three associates: Liberal Arts, Early Childhood development, and Educational Professional. She is the daughter of Jim and Judy Frank.

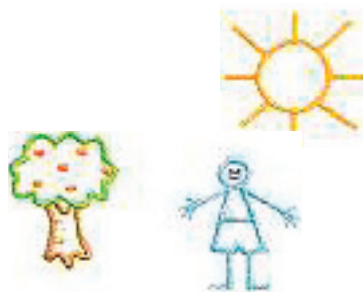
Congratulations for working hard and accomplishing so much.

Good Luck at CMU!



Love,  
Mom,  
Dad,  
and  
Lenny





## Second Annual Nibbin (i.e. summer) Youth Camp New Information and Games



When: June 8-19, 2009 8:30a.m.-3:30p.m Mon. thru Fri.  
or July 27-Aug. 7, 2009 8:30a.m.-3:30p.m. Mon. thru Fri.  
Where: Pow-Wow grounds Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Manistee Michigan

Ages 8-16 Campers will learn about healthy eating, portion sizes, reading food labels and many other topics on nutrition and exercise.

Play games, go on a hike, go swimming (hopefully in the new pool), make dream catchers and other crafts. Make a snow snake, and learn many indoor and outdoor games to stay activity all year long.

**Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided**



There will be hours of fun and lessons to share. Good behavior is expected at all times so all participants may enjoy this opportunity. There is no cost for this activity which is provided through Special Diabetes Program Initiatives and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Health Clinic

Registration: Community Health Representatives at  
231-398-6629 or toll free 888-382-8299 for registration packet.



**Permission slips and other paperwork must be filled out prior to the first day of camp.**

## The Dali of Dough



The first of the year, the tribal government temporarily cut employees back to 32 hours per week. This cutback hit employees hard in their pocketbooks so many put on their thinking caps and came up with ways to make up the loss. One of the most creative approaches was the one taken by Deb Davis. She

launched Deb's Designer Cookies!

Deb has taken a very good cookie recipe, added in some creative genius and has started creating works of art from Van Gogh to 'Mater from the movie Cars! What's best is that she is getting a good reputation for her cookies as very special gifts for everyone.



# Coca-Cola

**THE COCA-COLA FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARSHIP** is offered to American Indian students who are the first in their immediate family to pursue a higher education at a tribal college or university. The deadline for applications is **May 31, 2009**. Learn more at [http://www.raconline.org/funding/funding\\_details.php?funding\\_id=1563](http://www.raconline.org/funding/funding_details.php?funding_id=1563).

Anii,

Just a friendly reminder, We now have Tribal Logo wear in stock and all size Polos, jackets, fleece wear, sweaters, hoodies, hats of all sizes styles and shapes, including the Camo line!!!! Come and check out what's new at the Trading Post and while your here grab your gas and a pop for the road. Guarantee you'll get a welcome smile and a thanks for stoppin in. See you soon!!!

Miiqwetch  
Little River Trading Post



# Currents

You can find this and many other issues at [lrboi.com](http://lrboi.com)

## Megwa Ezhiweback



Ziisabaakdoke-Giizis (Sugar Moon)  
May / June 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 5  
Ode'mini-Giizis (Strawberry Moon)



**BIG SHIP, MORE FUN ... BEST VALUE!**  
800-841-4243

**S.S. BADGER**  
LAKE MICHIGAN CARRIERY

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Savings on S.S. Badger**

### Details:

20% discount off Tribal Passenger and Tribal Employee fares.  
Vehicle fares and staterooms are not discounted.  
Valid on any crossing.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call  
Michelle Lucas at 1-888-723-8288 ext 6804.

Discounts Valid  
May 9th 2009  
thru October  
12th 2009

### Note:

Your Tribal I.D card or Employee I.D. card must be presented at the ticket counter at the time of payment, in order to receive your discount.

## Attention all Tribal Members

If you are interested in joining any  
of the following Commissions or  
Committees

please submit a letter of interest  
to the Ogema's office with a copy  
going to the  
Tribal Council.

2 seats – Commerce Commission

2 seats – Gaming Commission

1 seat - Health Commission

2 seats – Binojeeuk

## Anishinaabe Family Language and Culture Camp

July 24, 25 & 26 2009

Gathering Grounds

Located across from the Little River  
Casino Resort and  
Behind the Trading Post

Bring your family and take part in the workshops,  
presentations and fun  
of this year's camp. It is fun for all levels of



## July 4 and 5<sup>th</sup> Gathering grounds

Everyone welcome

Grand Entries:

1PM and 7PM on the 4<sup>th</sup>

1 PM on the 5<sup>th</sup>

Head Veteran, Host Drums and  
Head Dancers to be announced  
at a later date

Vendor Inquiries: 231.398.6895

The Warriors Society is  
gathering photographs of  
members to be used when  
their office opens.

Please send photos of our  
Warriors either in uniform  
or in civilian dress to the  
Little River Band of Ottawa  
Indians, Warriors Society,  
375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660.



Buy your  
LRBOI flag from  
the Warrior's  
Society now for only  
\$50 plus S&H!